

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION**

Please replace the Abstract of the Disclosure beginning at page 11, with the following rewritten paragraph:

-- ~~The present invention is directed to a method of manufacturing and the product therefrom for stiffening polymeric hard discs through the use of a rigid medium such as an aluminum alloy for use in computer hard drives~~ a modulus stiffened hard disc includes providing a disc-shaped substrate, applying a polymer layer to the substrate, and compression molding the polymer coated substrate. The substrate is sized for use in computer hard drives. The polymer layer is fixed to the substrate by the compression molding step to form the modulus stiffened hard disc. The substrate may be aluminum or an aluminum alloy. The polymer layer may be an optical quality polymer layer. --